



THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HADDONFIELD

AN INTERIM NEWSLETTER

September, 1975

Summer, 1975, was for the Historical Society, an unusual one. Several developments occurred which could not be delayed until the annual Business Meeting in November; and a special meeting of the Board was held on August 28th. The topics discussed and the decisions made - all of interest to Society members - form the basis of this Interim Report.

GREENFIELD HALL - OPEN SUNDAY AFTERNOONS

Response to opening Greenfield Hall was heartening for three reasons:

- ... Several of our members cheerfully volunteered to spend part of their Sunday as host or hostess.
- ... There were visitors - Haddonfield residents as well as out-of-town guests - each Sunday.
- ... Without exception visitors were delighted to have the chance to tour the building at their leisure.

When Mrs. McGlade asked if the Board would want to continue the "experiment" through October, the answer was a unanimous "Yes." Hostess Chairman Alice Wood who arranged the schedule for July and August was again encouraged by the number of men and women who enthusiastically volunteered for Sunday duty.

SAMUEL MICKLE (FORMERLY THE HIP ROOF) HOUSE

Although the house will never look exactly as it did in Samuel Mickle's day, the oldest part (the rooms facing Kings Highway) is beginning to take on an 18th century appearance.

The original vertical beaded cedar siding (which still has an unmistakable cedar scent) has been uncovered; windows (not part of the 1710 structure) have been removed; and the original door has been hung. The present asphalt roof will be replaced with wood shingles from British Columbia.

SAMUEL MICKLE HOUSE (Con't)

Louis H. GoetteImann who makes almost daily visits to the site says that just about everything connected with the Samuel Mickle House is unique. It is this quality which makes the House so worth saving and, at the same time, adds to the restoration costs.

There are adequate funds to pay for Phase I, the exterior renovation, which should be completed by fall. Present plans for the interior, or Phase II, contemplate restoring the front rooms to the 1710 condition for use as an exhibit area, and one of the two original rooms upstairs may also be open to the public. The 1790 and 1836 rear sheds will be used as quarters for a resident custodian.

If it were possible to start Phase II sometime soon, it is likely the Society would realize some cost savings. The truth of the matter is, however, that neither the Society nor the Hip Roof House Fund has money enough to begin the inside restoration. It will be necessary to have a second fund-raising drive.

SAMUEL MICKLE HOUSE COMMEMORATIVE BOTTLES

The Samuel Mickle House Committee plans to help its own cause by selling commemorative bottles. The Board voted to approve a request to purchase a quantity of "limited edition" bottles. Proceeds from the sale of these bottles will be given to the Samuel Mickle House Fund. Bottles should be delivered in time for Christmas giving.

CANDLELIGHT TOUR CANCELLED

Between May and August, all kinds of unexpected developments can occur, and this year they did. In May, the Candlelight Tour Committee was optimistic about having a pleasing tour of Haddonfield homes and public buildings. By August, only the Minimall and the Friends' Meeting had agreed to participate.

By then, it was too late to ask even our best friends if they would open their homes on October 11th, the date scheduled for the Tour. Reluctantly, the Board agreed to cancel the Tour.

The Society extends its sincere thanks to the merchants in the Minimall and to the members of the Friends' Meeting for their interest and cooperation.

"CHRISTMAS AT GREENFIELD HALL"

Since the Candlelight Tour has become a highlight of the fall social season, as well as a major fund-raising event, it will be missed. To take its place, someone suggested having "Christmas at Greenfield Hall," an idea which was heartily endorsed.

The date has been set: Sunday, December 14th. A committee has been appointed, planning has started, and invitations will be in the mail in ample time to make your reservations.

PROPOSED REVISION OF THE BYLAWS

A committee appointed by the president to review the bylaws and make whatever suggestions for change they thought advisable held several work sessions during the summer.

The proposed amendments to the Society bylaws which the committee recommended and which are to be voted upon in November, include:

1. Striking out the Property Committee and its duties and adding three new committees and their duties. These shall be: a) Building Committee; b) Furnishings Committee; and c) Grounds Committee.

These recommendations were made by the Property Committee in order to simplify procedures and divide responsibilities.

2. Addition of a meeting in September to eliminate the conduct of business at the annual July Picnic.
3. Editorial changes and deletion of procedures no longer in effect.

POT POURRI

... The first fall meeting of the Woman's Committee will be Tuesday, September 23rd, 10:00 A.M., at Greenfield Hall. The coffee is always good; the hotbreads, often homemade, are delicious; and the company is uniformly excellent. All members are welcome. Says Ruby Oberst, Chairperson of the Committee, "We're constantly on the lookout for new ideas, for it is these ideas, converted into action, that keep our programs fresh and interesting."

... The annual Membership Renewal Drive will begin October 15th. If you can include a small donation in addition to dues, the extra gift (tax deductible) will certainly be appreciated.

POT POURRI

- ... The Society was asked if it would give financial support to "The King's Road." After consideration, the committee appointed to recommend a course of action, suggested that a loan be made. The offer was graciously declined. "The King's Road" will be presented on Thursday, Friday and Saturday October 23, 24 and 25, and the following week, October 30 and 31 and November 1. Matinee performances will be given at 2:30 p.m. Saturday October 25 and November 1. Ticket order forms are available at the Society.
- ... Since there are so few copies left from the original printing of the Walter Cox - Thomas S. Hopkins book, "Colonial Furniture of South Jersey," the Board approved increasing the price from \$25.00 to \$50.00. Some years ago, the Board established a policy that any request to purchase the book must be approved by Board action. That policy is still in effect.
- ... As part of the Victorian Day program, Exhibits Chairman Diane Snodgrass has planned a special exhibition for children. There will be a display of clothing worn over 100 years ago, priceless "touch-me-not" toys, and a selection of more rugged toys and games which may be handled. The exhibit, to be held at Greenfield Hall, will be open Saturday, September 20th, from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. and again on Sunday from 1:00 to 3:00 P.M.
- ... On the same Saturday, the 20th, Haddonfield Boy Scout Troops will transform the "garage torium" to a panoramic survey of Scouting over the decades. A huge tent will be pitched on the lawn, and Scouts will be on hand to explain how Scouting, by responding to the changing times and interests, has retained its strong attraction for young men.

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Historical Society of Haddonfield

Haddonfield, New Jersey

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